

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-14 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01

NIC-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 COA-02 CU-04 DRC-01 /152 W

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R 311024Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9717

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO

CINCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 2181

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB PO

SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS WITH PORTUGUESE LABOR

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REF: LISBON 2074

SUMMARY: FOLLOWING IS SITUATION REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS OF PORTUGUESE INTERSINDICAL, WHICH IS MOVING TO PREEMPT INTERNATIONAL TIES OF PORTUGUESE LABOR. END SUMMARY.

1. PORTUGUESE "INTERSINDICAL", COMMUNIST-DOMINATED EMBRYONIC NATIONAL LABOR FEDERATION, SENT TWO REPRESENTATIVES TO COPENHAGEN ETUC CONFERENCE. REPS WERE FRANCISCO MARCELO CURTO, LABOR LAWYER AND MEMBER OF DIRECTING COUNCIL OF SOCIALIST PARTY, AND ANTONIO RODRIGUES, WHO NOT KNOWN TO EMBASSY. SOCIALIST NEWSPAPER REPUBLICA SENT JOURNALISTS GONCALVES ANDRE AND ANTONIA DE SOUSA (WHO IS CURTO'S WIFE) TO COVER CONFERENCE. NO OTHER PORTUGUESE WENT THAT WE KNOW OF. UPON RETURN CURTO AND RODRIGUES GAVE TELEVISION INTERVIEW IN WHICH THEY REPORTED THAT CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS HAD GIVEN THEM WARM WELCOME AND HAD EXPRESSED GREAT INTEREST IN PORTUGUESE LABOR MOVEMENT. CURTO STATED THAT CONFERENCE WAS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT ROLE OF MULTI-NATIONAL CORPORATIONS "ESPECIALLY AMERICAN ONES".

2. INTERSINDICAL HAS NAMED DELEGATION TO ATTEND ILO CONFERENCE NEXT WEEK IN GENEVA. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORT, TWO MEMBERS OF DELEGATION, MARIO NUNES HENRIQUES (UNKNOWN TO EMBASSY) AND MARIA TERESA VAZ PIRES (WHOM WE UNDERSTAND TO BE PCP MEMBER) HAVE ALREADY LEFT FOR GENEVA TO PREPARE FOR CONFERENCE. REST OF DELEGATION WILL LEAVE JUNE 2. REMAINING DELEGATES ARE CANAIS ROCHA, VITOR FERNANDES, ANGELO FERREIRA, MANUEL LOPES, MANUEL SILVA, FIRMINO MARTINS AND ANTERO MARTINS. EMBASSY UNCERTAIN OF POLITICAL ORIENTATION OF THESE DELEGATES (EXCEPT ROCHA, WHO IS MEMBER OF PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY), BUT WE KNOW THAT BOTH FERREIRA AND SILVA ARE OFFICIALS OF PCP-DOMINATED METALLURGICAL SYNDICATE AND ANTERO MARTINS IS OFFICIAL OF PCP-DOMINATED BANK WORKERS SYNDICATE.

3. INTERSINDICAL HAS ANNOUNCED THAT ALTHOUGH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR "PORTUGUESE SYNDICAL MOVEMENT" HAS BEEN CONFIDENTIAL

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PROMISED BY NORWEGIANS (\$92,000), DUTCH (\$36,000) AND ICFTU ("1,000,000 FRANCS"-- WE BELIEVE BELGIAN FRANCS), NO MONEY HAS BEEN RECEIVED, AND INTERSINDICAL IS OPERATING WITH ONLY FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM A FEW PORTUGUESE SYNDICATES. ANNOUNCEMENT FURTHER SAYS THAT ICFTU HAS BEEN TOLD THAT INTERSINDICAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAS DECIDED THAT "ANY INTERNATIONAL HELP OR CONTACTS WITH PORTUGUESE SYNDICAL MOVEMENT MUST BE CHANNLED THROUGH INTERSINDICAL SECRETARIAT".

4. INTERSINDICAL IS SEEKING TO CONVINCE MORE LOCAL SYNDICATES TO JOIN IT AND IS LOOKING FOR WAYS TO BRING IN RURAL WORKERS, FISHERMEN AND STUDENTS. "INTERINDICAL IS LIMITED TO LISBON AT PRESENT", IN WORDS OF INTERINDICAL REPRESENTATIVE WHO WAS INTERVIEWED ON TELEVISION MAY 29. SCOTT

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